

HISTORY 249
HEALTH AND THE HEALER IN WESTERN HISTORY

Prof. T. Schlich
Fall Term 2006
Tuesday/Thursday 10.05-11.25
McDonald Harrington Building G-10

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office hours: Wednesday 14.00-16:00 in room 203, Dept. of Social Studies of Medicine, 3647 Peel Street . Office hours for TAs to be announced.

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A WEBCT COURSE

This course makes use of WebCT. Available on the WebCT site are (or will be shortly):

- this course guide
- instructions for all assignments
- PowerPoint presentation of the lectures
- sample examinations
- Library resources page
- The Library Research Module (see below)

ABOUT THIS COURSE

This course is a survey of the history of medicine in the Western world (Europe and North America) from antiquity to the present. It aims:

- ◆ to sketch in chronological sequence the main lines of the evolution of medicine both as a kind of knowledge and as a practice;
- ◆ to examine the ways in which the body, health and disease were conceptualized in the past, and to situate the major shifts in medical knowledge and practice in the context of broader historical changes in Western society;
- ◆ to examine the changing role of "the healer" over time, and in cultural and social context;

- ◆ to track the evolution of some of the major institutional frameworks of medicine, such as medical education and hospitals;
- ◆ to analyse the ways in which historical societies and their healers have interacted in the face of medical challenges.

The course is divided into three parts. **Part 1 "Western Traditional Medicine"** covers the longest time span -- from prehistory to the end of the 18th century. During this time period, Western medical ideas and practices evolved within what was essentially a stable paradigm. Western views of the nature of the body and of illness, and of the role of the healer, were grounded in concepts like "complexion" and "imbalance" which are shared by other historic healing systems, such as Chinese traditional medicine and Ayurveda. However, there are also distinctively Western elements in this paradigm, which created the conditions for a momentous change. **Part 2 "Modern Medicine"** describes this change. Beginning at the close of the 18th century, Western medicine replaced "complexion" with the notion of the body as a biological organism, and "imbalance" with new theories of disease origin and process. This change is paralleled by massive social, economic and cultural changes in society at large. As a result, the way doctors and patients interacted, and the settings in which they encountered one another, were transformed. We finally look at the triumphs and the problems of modern medicine in the context of a rapidly changing society, and the all-embracing power of modern bureaucracy. All these have profoundly shaped the way Westerners understand health and the healer.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students are required to:

1. Purchase the textbooks:

The Western Medical Tradition 800BC to AD 1800 (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995)

Medicine Transformed. Health, Disease and Society in Europe 1800-1930 (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2004) and the

Course Pack at the McGill Bookstore,

and do the readings for each lecture, as assigned below. The readings are extremely important; you will be asked questions about them in the mid-term and final examinations.

2. Do the following assignments:

Written exercise 1 (3-5pp): primary source analysis 20%

-due Thursday, 5th October

Written exercise 2 (5-7pp): critical bibliography 40%

-due **Tuesday, 14th November**

Suggestions for possible bibliography topics as well as instructions for the assignment will be posted on the WebCT site

The Library Research Module will be found on the WebCT site and is due Tuesday, 17 Oct.

●All assignments must be received on or before the due date, either in class or in the History Dept. main office (Leacock Building, 6th floor) before 5:00 p.m. One mark is deducted for every working day an assignment is in arrears.

Final examination 40% (in formal exam period)

McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the code of student conduct and disciplinary procedures (see www.mcgill.ca/integrity for more information).

COURSE CALENDAR

Tue, 5 Sept: Introduction

PART 1. WESTERN TRADITIONAL MEDICINE

Thu, 7 Sept: Preliterate Societies and the Ancient Near East

Don Handelman, "The Development of a Washo Shaman", *Ethnology* 6 (1967), pp. 427-38; J. Worth Estes, "Egyptian Healers", in *The Medical Skills of Ancient Egypt* (Canton, MA: Science History Publications, 1986), ch.. 2 (Egyptian Healers), pp. 13-26.

Tue, 12 Sept: Ancient Greece

Vivian Nutton, "Medicine in the Greek World, 800-50BC", in *The Western Medical Tradition 800BC to AD 1800* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995), pp. 11-38. Source: The Hippocratic Oath.

Thu, 14 Sept: Roman Medicine and Galen

Vivian Nutton, "Roman Medicine, 250BC to AD 200", in *The Western Medical Tradition 800BC to AD 1800* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995), pp. 39-70.

Tue, 19 Sept: From Galen to "Galenism": Medicine in Late Antiquity, Islam, and the Early Medieval West

Vivian Nutton, "Medicine in Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages", in *The Western Medical Tradition 800BC to AD 1800* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995), pp. 71-87; Lawrence I. Conrad, "The Arab-Islamic Medical Tradition", *ibid.*, pp. 93-138.

Thu, 21 Sept: Medieval Medicine I: The Birth of Academic Medicine

Vivian Nutton, "Medicine in Medieval Western Europe, 1000-1500", in *The Western Medical Tradition 800BC to A D 1800* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995), pp. 139-205.

Tue, 26 Sept: Medieval Medicine II: Disease (Guest Lecture: Prof. Wallis)

Faith Wallis, "Disease in the Middle Ages: The Cases of Leprosy and Plague", in Don Bates and George Weisz, *Essays in Medical History*.

Thu, 28 Sept: Comparing "Traditional Medicines": Galenism and Classic Chinese Medicine

1. Finding research material in the history of medicine: Chris Lyons, Osler Library.
2. Shigehisa Kuriyama, "Pulse Diagnosis in the Greek and Chinese Traditions", in *History of Diagnosis*, ed. by Yosio Kawakita (The Ianiguchi Foundation, 1987), pp. 43-67.

Tue, 3 Oct: Early Modern Medicine

Andrew Wear, "Medicine in Early Modern Europe, 1500-1700" in *The Western Medical Tradition 800BC to AD 1800* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995), part I: pp. 215-273.

Thu, 5 Oct: Medicine and the Scientific Revolution

Andrew Wear, "Medicine in Early Modern Europe, 1500-1700" in *The Western Medical Tradition 800BC to AD 1800* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995), part II: pp. 273-361.

Thu, 12 Oct: The 17th and 18th Centuries

Roy Porter, "The Eighteenth Century", Andrew Wear, "Medicine in Early Modern Europe, 1500-1700" in *The Western Medical Tradition 800BC to AD 1800* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995), pp. 371-475.

PART 2. MODERN MEDICINE

Tue, 17 Oct: Modern Medical Science I: The Clinical Revolution

L.S. Jacyna, "The Localization of Disease", in *Medicine Transformed. Health, Disease and Society in Europe 1800-1930* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2004), pp. 1-30.

Thu, 19 Oct: Modern Medical Science II: The Laboratory Revolution

Deborah Brunton, "The Rise of Laboratory Medicine", in *Medicine Transformed. Health, Disease and Society in Europe 1800-1930* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2004), pp. 92-118.

Tue, 24 Oct: The Evolution of Hospitals

Hilary Marland, "The Changing Role of the Hospital, 1800-1900, in *Medicine Transformed. Health, Disease and Society in Europe 1800-1930* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2004), pp. 31-60.

Thu, 26 Oct: The Making of a Modern Medical Profession

Deborah Brunton: "The Emergence of a Modern Profession?", in *Medicine Transformed. Health, Disease and Society in Europe 1800-1930* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2004), pp. 119-150.

Tue, 31 Oct: Public Health (Prof. Weisz)

Deborah Brunton: "Dealing with Disease in Populations: Public Health, 1830-1880", in *Medicine Transformed. Health, Disease and Society in Europe 1800-1930* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2004), pp. 180-210; Paul Weindling, "From Germ Theory to Social Medicine: Public Health, 1880-1930", *ibid.*, pp. 239-265.

Thu, 2 Nov: The Rise of Surgery

Thomas Schlich: "The Emergence of Modern Surgery", in *Medicine Transformed. Health, Disease and Society in Europe 1800-1930* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2004), pp. 61-91.

Tue, 7 Nov: The Role of Medicine in the Modern Rise in Health

Stephen J. Kunitz, "Medicine, Mortality and Morbidity", in *Companion Encyclopedia of the History of Medicine*, ed. by William F. Bynum and Roy Porter (London: Routledge,

1993), vol. 2, pp. 1693-1711. Don Bates and George Weisz: "The Healer and the Modern Rise in Health", in *Essays in Medical History*.

Thu, 9 Nov: The Twentieth Century

Allan M. Brandt and Martha Gardner, "The Golden Age of Medicine?", in *Medicine in the Twentieth Century* ed. by Roger Cooter and John Pickstone (Amsterdam: Harwood Academic Publishers, 2000), pp. 21-37. E.M. Tansey, "From the Germ Theory to 1945", in *Western Medicine: An Illustrated History*, ed. by Irvin Loudon (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1997), pp. 102-122.

James Moore, "The Fortunes of Eugenics", in *Medicine Transformed. Health, Disease and Society in Europe 1800-1930* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2004), pp. 266-297.

Tue, 14 Nov: Bio-Medicine

Stephen Lock, "Medicine in the Second Half of the Twentieth Century", in *Western Medicine: An Illustrated History*, ed. by Irvin Loudon (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1997), pp. 123-144.

Deborah Brunton, "Access to Health Care, 1880-1930", in *Medicine Transformed. Health, Disease and Society in Europe 1800-1930* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2004), pp. 364-394.

Thu, 16 Nov: The History of Birth Control (Prof. Tone)

Maxine Rhodes, "Women in Medicine: Doctors and Nurses, 1850-1920", in *Medicine Transformed. Health, Disease and Society in Europe 1800-1930* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2004), pp. 151-179.

Tue, 21 Nov: Images and Imaging in Modern Medicine (Prof. Borck)

Thu, 23 Nov: Health and Disease in Modern Africa (Prof. Echenberg)

Michael Worboys, "Colonial and Imperial Medicine", in *Medicine Transformed. Health, Disease and Society in Europe 1800-1930* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2004), pp. 211-258.

Tue, 28 Nov: Human Experimentation

Susan Lederer, *Subjected to Science: Human Experimentation in America before the Second World War* (1995), xiii-xvi, 1-26. T. Benedek and J. Erlen, "The Scientific Environment of the Tuskegee Study of Syphilis, 1920-1960", in *Perspectives in Biology and Medicine* 43 (1999), pp. 1-30.

Thu, 30 Nov: The 21st Century